

Wildlife

ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES IN NH

A LABOR MARKET
INFORMATION REPORT

Wildlife

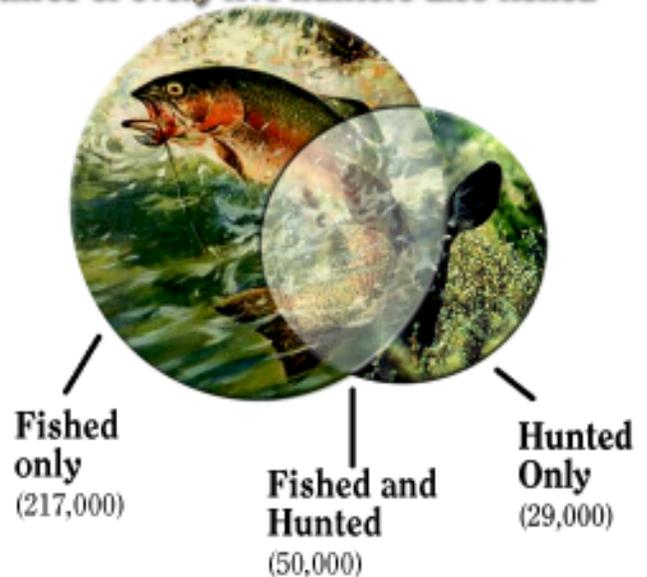
ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES IN NH

\$619 million was spent on wildlife-associated activities in New Hampshire in 2001

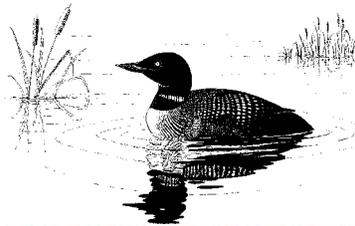
Like to hunt? Fish? Watch, feed, or photograph wildlife? You're not alone. Wildlife-associated recreation is a popular pastime in New Hampshire. In 2001, New Hampshire residents and nonresidents spent about \$619 million on these activities while in the state. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's *2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, 892,000 people (16 years old and older) participated in wildlife-associated activities in the Granite State in 2001.

Wildlife-associated recreation consists of hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching. Of the total participants - 267,000 fished; 78,000 hunted; and 766,000 participated in wildlife watching activities. The sum of hunters, fishermen, and wildlife watchers exceeds the total number of participants because many people engaged in more than one wildlife activity in 2001.

One in every five fishermen also hunted; three of every five hunters also fished



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



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Wildlife Watching

In 2001, about 766,000 U.S. residents watched, photographed, or fed wildlife in New Hampshire. While in the state, they spent, on average, \$448 each or a total of \$342.9 million. Nonresidents accounted for just over half of this total. What did these 766,000 wildlife watchers spend their money on? About half was spent on trip-related expenses and the remaining on equipment and miscellaneous expenses.

-  Of the total participants, 425,000¹ participated in these activities at least one mile from their home.
-  One in every four of these participants was a New Hampshire resident.
-  About 445,000¹ New Hampshire residents observed, photographed, and/or fed wildlife within one mile of their home.

Characteristics of New Hampshire residents participating in Wildlife Watching Activities (no matter where they chose to participate)

-  Just over half were female.
-  Just over half were between 35 and 54 years old.
-  Of the participants who returned usable income data on their survey, 40 percent indicated they earned between \$20,000 and \$49,999.



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

-  Another 40 percent earned between \$50,000 and \$99,999.
-  The remaining earned over \$100,000 per year.
-  Two-thirds reported having at least four years of college.

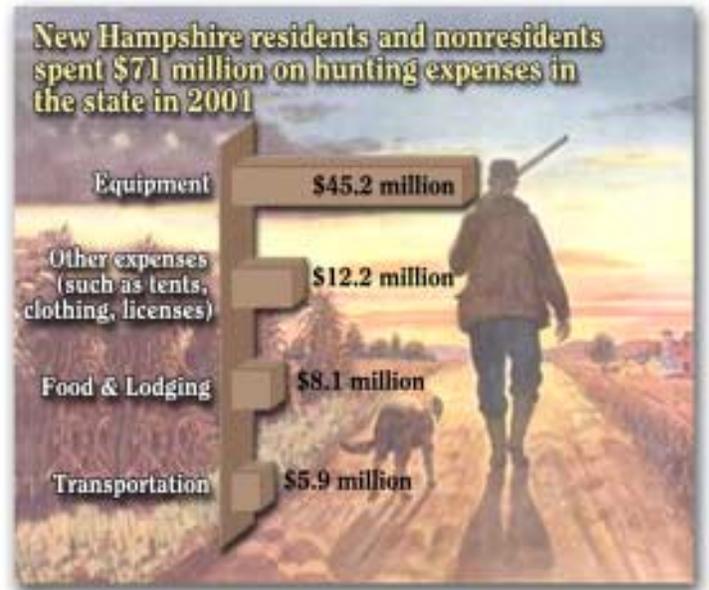
This survey considered wildlife watchers as those people, 16 years old or older, whose primary activity was observing, photographing, or feeding wildlife. Survey participants must have either taken a "special interest" in wildlife around their homes or taken a trip for the "primary purpose" of wildlife watching. Trips to fish, hunt, or scout and trips to zoos, circuses, aquariums, or museums were not considered wildlife watching activities for this survey.

¹ Some New Hampshire residents enjoyed this sport both within one mile of their home and more than one mile from their home, therefore, the two sum to a higher number than the total.

Hunting

Roughly 78,000 US residents age 16 and older hunted in the Granite State in 2001. These residents and nonresidents hunted 1.5 million days in New Hampshire, which calculates to about 19 days per hunter. While in the state these hunters spent nearly \$71 million in 2001, an average of \$829 each. Roughly \$2 of every \$5 spent in New Hampshire was brought in by nonresidents.

What did the 78,000 hunters spend their money on? Three-quarters of the money was spent on hunting equipment, leaving the rest to buy such things as food, lodging, clothing, and licenses.



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Two of every three of these hunters were in fact New Hampshire residents.
- About two-thirds of the US residents who hunted in New Hampshire in 2001 were also avid anglers.

- Another 25 percent earned between \$75,000 and \$99,999.
- Not quite half reported having a high school diploma.
- Another one-third indicated having 1-3 years of college.

Characteristics of New Hampshire resident hunters (no matter where they chose to hunt)

- The majority were male.
- Of the usable responses, two of every five were between 35 and 54 years old.
- Of the participants who returned usable income data on their survey, nearly 36 percent indicated they earned between \$50,000 and \$74,999.

For this survey, hunters were considered sportspeople who only hunted plus those who hunted and fished. Hunters included not only licensed hunters using common hunting practices, but also those who have no license and those who engaged in hunting with a bow and arrow, muzzleloader, other primitive firearms, a pistol, or a handgun. Four types of hunting were reported: big game, small game, migratory bird, and other animals.



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Fishing

Fishing in New Hampshire was the wildlife recreation of choice for 217,000 people in 2001. Another 50,000 hunted and fished, bringing the total number of people who fished in New Hampshire sometime during 2001 up to 267,000. These anglers spent 3.2 million days fishing, which calculates to about 12 days per angler. While in the state, they spent \$164 million. Just over one-quarter of the total spent in the Granite State was brought in by nonresidents.

What did the 267,000 anglers spend their money on? About \$4.50 of every \$10 was spent on fishing equipment. Another \$3 of every \$10 was spent on clothing, licenses, tents, etc. The balance was spent on transportation, food, and lodging.

 Two of every three people who fished in New Hampshire in 2001 were in fact New Hampshire residents.

Characteristics of New Hampshire resident fishermen (no matter where they chose to fish)

-  The survey results showed that three-quarters of all anglers who fished in New Hampshire in 2001 were men.
-  Of the participants who returned usable income data on their survey, about two in five earned less than \$50,000 per year.
-  Roughly one quarter indicated they earned between \$50,000 and \$74,999.



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

-  About one-third earned over \$75,000 per year.
-  Three of every five anglers who fished in New Hampshire in 2001 reported having some college education.

For this survey, anglers were considered sportspersons who only fished plus those who fished and hunted. Anglers included not only licensed hook-and-line anglers, but also those who have no license and those who use special methods such as fishing with spears. Three types of fishing were reported: freshwater (excluding Great Lakes), Great Lakes, and saltwater.



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Statistics from the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department

According to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, about 134,100 people age 16 and over purchased a fishing license in New Hampshire in 2001. Roughly 81 percent of these anglers were New Hampshire residents. Their figures also showed that more than 68,600 people age 16 and over bought hunting licenses in the state. Over 85 percent of these hunters were residents of the Granite State. The revenue from these license purchases totaled over \$2 million in 2001.

The Department said the number of people who fished and/or hunted in the state in 2001 was actually higher than their numbers suggested for a few reasons. First, anyone age 68 and over can

receive a free hunting, fishing, or combination license and these licenses are not counted in their totals and second, people who buy lifetime licenses are only counted in the numbers for the year the license was purchased.

Although the department doesn't have specific data available on the number of wildlife viewers in the state, they did agree that wildlife watching is a popular recreation in New Hampshire.

According to *New Hampshire's Wildlife Viewing Guide* (written by the department's wildlife education programs supervisor, Judy Silverberg), "Since the 1970s, wildlife viewing has grown to be one of the most popular outdoor recreation activities. More than 450 species of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, and reptiles can be seen at 73 designated wildlife viewing areas around the state. This guide gives information such as specific species present, optimal times for viewing, detailed directions, access and facilities, and viewing tips are given about each of the 73 areas in New Hampshire.

² Silverberg, Judith K. *Wildlife Viewing Guide*. Montana: Falcon Press, 1997

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Data Source: "2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation". U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. October 2002. Accessed October 24, 2002. www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/01fhw/fhw01-nh.pdf



The following are available in hard copy from the Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau of New Hampshire Employment Security. Many of these publications are also available at our Web site: <www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/>

New Hampshire Employment Projections by Industry and Occupation
Licensed, Certified, and Registered Occupations in New Hampshire
New Hampshire Job Outlook and Locator Occupations by Industry
Vital Signs: Economic and Social Indicators for New Hampshire
New Hampshire Occupational Employment and Wages
New Hampshire Career and Industry profiles
Summary of the New Hampshire Economy
User's Guide to Labor Market Information
Economic Conditions in New Hampshire
STAT: New Hampshire Resource Papers
New Hampshire Commuting Patterns
Local Area Unemployment Statistics
New Hampshire Affirmative Action
In Brief: Employment Projections
New Hampshire County Profile
New Hampshire Job Notes
New Hampshire Snapshot
New Hampshire Benefits
Retirement 2002
Childcare 2000
NHCRN News

The following are only available at our Web site: <www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/>:

Employment and Wage Data for the Eighteen Labor Market Areas
New Hampshire Unemployment Insurance Historical Data
High Tech Employment in New Hampshire
New Hampshire Community Profiles
Firms by Size in New Hampshire



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